



FirstNet™

Public Safety Advisory Committee

WHAT IS THE FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY (FIRSTNET)?

Signed into law on February 22, 2012, the [Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act \(Act\)](#) created the [First Responder Network Authority \(FirstNet\)](#). The law gives FirstNet the mission to ensure the building, deployment, operation, and maintenance of the first high-speed, nationwide wireless broadband network dedicated to public safety. FirstNet will provide a single interoperable platform for emergency and daily public safety data communications.

FirstNet is an independent authority within the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration. FirstNet is governed by a 15 member Board consisting of the Attorney General of the United States, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and 12 members appointed by the Secretary of Commerce. The FirstNet Board is composed of representatives from public safety; local, state and federal government; and the wireless industry.

WHAT IS THE PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PSAC)?

Under the Act, FirstNet was required to establish a [Public Safety Advisory Committee \(PSAC\)](#). The PSAC consists of 43 members who represent organizations from all disciplines of public safety as well as local, state, territorial, tribal, and federal governments. There are also at large members.

The mission of the PSAC is to assist FirstNet in carrying out its duties to ensure the building, deployment, operation, and maintenance of the nationwide public safety broadband network (NPSBN) in matters involving shared intergovernmental responsibilities or administration. Specifically, the PSAC:

- Offers FirstNet guidance, information, and subject matter expertise, from a public safety perspective, to ensure that needs, requirements, and operational constructs necessary for critical public safety capabilities are included in the envisioned network
- Provides subject matter expertise on concepts (e.g., policies, procedures, technologies, operational methods, etc.) developed by FirstNet
- Conducts regular meetings to remain informed and up to date on FirstNet's progress

WHAT ARE THE CURRENT PSAC EFFORTS?

Participation as subject matter experts on task teams and working groups is topic specific and continues until final reports or recommendations have been submitted to FirstNet by the PSAC Chair after receiving input/feedback from the full committee. Current ongoing efforts include:

Task Teams

Preparing for Adoption: The Preparing for Adoption task team will identify key pathways to network adoption, describe ways for FirstNet to facilitate a positive user experience on the network, and identify ways to capitalize on emerging

future trends, applications or uses of broadband data. Their efforts will assist public safety agencies who are considering becoming FirstNet subscribers to prepare for adoption.

Working Groups

Early Builders Working Group: An Early Builders Working Group (EBWG) comprised of representatives from Adams County, Colorado; Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System (LA-RICS), California, Texas, New Mexico, and New Jersey was established to provide FirstNet with early builder strategies and lessons learned that will assist in planning efforts for the NPSBN.

Tribal Working Group: A Tribal Working Group (TWG) comprised of representatives from a broad cross section of multi-tribal organizations was established to provide FirstNet advice on tribal outreach, education, and inclusive consultation strategies to ensure participation by tribal jurisdictions in planning for the NPSBN.

Federal Working Group: A Federal Working Group (FWG) consisting of federal practitioners from across all public safety disciplines on operational activities is being established to further integrate FirstNet's federal outreach and consultation activities with the PSAC's work and drive planning efforts for the NPSBN.

WHAT ASSIGNMENTS HAS THE PSAC COMPLETED?

Identity, Credential and Access Management (ICAM): The ICAM task team explored issues that public safety agencies experience today due to the lack of an interoperable ICAM solution; documented recommended initial governance rules for ICAM use in public safety; established a proposed framework for onboarding agencies into the use of federated identity; and examined potential working ICAM solutions. These recommendations will be essential as FirstNet explores ICAM-enabling technologies to uncover potential risks or roadblocks.

Local Control: The Local Control task team provided recommendations to further define and refine the operational requirements of FirstNet's Local Control application. FirstNet remains particularly interested in the PSAC's advice when developing governance of the use of quality of service, priority and preemption (QPP) by public safety and sharing such governance with the user community.

Priority and Preemption: Provided advice and recommendations on an initial framework for implementing access prioritization, user preemption, and application prioritization on the nationwide public safety broadband network (NPSBN).

Public Safety Grade: Provided advice and recommendations on an initial methodology and framework for prioritizing and implementing public safety grade hardening recommendations for the NPSBN.

User Equipment: Provided advice and recommendations on functional objectives for and ergonomic considerations of Band 14 broadband user equipment that will meet the operational needs of first responders.

User Profiles: The User Profiles task team advised FirstNet on how to establish profile templates to facilitate how a locality influences the network. Building upon the work done during the ICAM and Local Control task teams, the User Profiles task team examined how to register public safety agencies, provision devices and users, and manage identities, credentials and attributes. The task team developed a draft profile template for the four primary public safety disciplines (law enforcement, Fire Service, EMS and 9-1-1) for use on Day 1 of the network.

Human Factors: The PSAC analyzed the long range impacts of the NPSBN on the manner law enforcement, fire, EMS, and public safety communications centers operate and how they may be better served in addressing their duties once the network is built and operating. The Human Factors Report is available on the FirstNet website.

Application/Use Cases: The PSAC developed use cases to illustrate how the envisioned technology, network, and applications will support the incident response by discipline (e.g., law enforcement, fire, and EMS). These use cases, available on the FirstNet website, were incorporated into design modeling efforts conducted by the FirstNet technical staff.

Eligible Users: The PSAC developed a list of proposed eligible users of the NPSBN and related definitions, which was used to inform the public notices FirstNet released related to the definition and scope of public safety entities qualifying for use of the NPSBN.

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION ON THE PSAC?

For questions on the PSAC and its activities, please contact PSAC@firstnet.gov or visit the [FirstNet website](https://www.firstnet.gov).

FirstNet Board

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 U.S. Attorney General (Designee Chris Piehota)
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PSAC Executive Committee

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 PSAC Vice Chair Mel Maier (Police-MCSA)

Public Safety Advisory Committee (43 Members)

Early Builders Working Group

EC Liaison Tom Sorley
 Texas (TX) – Todd Early, CHAIR
 New Mexico (NM) – Darryl Ackley, VICE CHAIR
 Adams County (CO)—Scott Lane
 Los Angeles-RICS (CA)—Scott Edson
 New Jersey (NJ)—Steven Talpas

Tribal Working Group

EC Liaison Paul Patrick
 NCAI—Brian Howard, CHAIR
 ATNI—Randell Harris, VICE CHAIR
 AITC—Heather Hudson, Ph.D.
 APHA-AI/AN/NH—Michael Bird
 ARA—Gerad Godfrey
 IACP-ICLES—Pending
 IAEM-TAC—Raymond Kennedy
 ICIN —Nathan Nixon
 NN —Teresa Hopkins
 NNAFCA—Mark Openshaw
 NTEMC—Robert DesRosier
 NWTEMC—Richard Flores
 SCTCA—Robert Clark
 TCC—Pending
 USET—Harrell French
 see page 6 for acronyms

Public Safety Advisory Committee

PSAC Executive Committee

PSAC Chair Tom Sorley (Local-USCM)
 PSAC Vice Chair Niles Ford (Fire Service-Metro Chiefs)
 PSAC Vice Chair Paul Patrick (EMS-NASEMSO)
 PSAC Vice Chair Jimmy Gianato (State-NGA)
 PSAC Vice Chair Mel Maier (Police-MCSA)

1.	AASHTO	American Association of State Highway & Transportation Officials	Paul J. Steinman
2.	APCO	Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials-International	Martha Carter
3.	APWA	American Public Works Association	Philip R. Mann
4.	FCCA	Forestry Conservation Communications Association	Lloyd Mitchell
5.	GHSCA	Governors Homeland Security Advisors Council	Rodger A. Heaton
6.	IAB	Interagency Board	Captain Chris Lombard
7.	IACP	International Association of Chiefs of Police	Mark Dunaski
8.	IAEM	International Association of Emergency Managers	Joseph R. Sastre
9.	IAFC	International Association of Fire Chiefs	Chief Gary McCarraher
10.	ICMA	International City/County Management Association	Mark L. Ryckman
11.	IMSA	International Municipal Signal Association	Paul Szoc
12.	MCCA	Major Cities (Police) Chiefs Association	Pending
13.	MCSA	Major County Sheriffs' Association	Mel Maier
14.	Metro Chiefs	Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association	Chief Niles Ford
15.	NACo	National Association of Counties	Len Humphries
16.	NAEMT	National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians	Don Lundy
17.	NARC	National Association of Regional Councils	Curt Hagman
18.	NASCIO	National Association of State Chief Information Officers	Darryl Ackley
19.	NASEMSO	National Association of State EMS Officials	Paul R. Patrick
20.	NASNA	National Association of State 9-1-1 Administrators	Richard Taylor
21.	NASTD	National Association of State Technology Directors	Charlie Sasser
22.	NATOA	National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors	Barry Fraser
23.	NCAI	National Congress of American Indians	Brian Howard
24.	NCJA	National Criminal Justice Association	John M. Sweeney
25.	NCSL	National Conference of State Legislators	Brian Feldman
26.	NCSWIC	National Council of Statewide Interoperability Coordinators	Todd Early
27.	NEMA	National Emergency Management Association	Jeff Stern
28.	NEMSMA	National EMS Management Association	Jonathan Olson
29.	NENA	National Emergency Number Association	Trey Forgety
30.	NGA	National Governors Association	Jimmy Gianato
31.	NLC	National League of Cities	Pending
32.	Nlets	The International Justice and Public Safety Network	Frank Minice
33.	NPSTC	National Public Safety Telecommunications Council	Chief Douglas Aiken
34.	NSA	National Sheriffs' Association	Sheriff Larry D. Amerson
35.	NVFC	National Volunteer Fire Council	Chief C. Reid Vaughan
36.	SEARCH	National Consortium of Justice Information Statistics	Mark Perbix
37.	USCM	U.S. Conference of Mayors	Tom Sorley
38.	At Large	SAFECOM EC	Mark Grubb
39.	At Large	Fire Non-Management First Line Responder	Lieutenant Billy Freeman
40.	At Large	Police Non-Management First Line Responder	Vacant
41.	At Large	Police Non-Management First Line Responder	James N. Mann
42.	Federal	U.S. Department of Homeland Security	Kraig Moise
43.	Federal	U.S. Department of Justice	David M. Rogers

Tribal Working Group Organizations



1. AITCAlaska Inter-Tribal Council
2. APHA-AI/AN/NHAmerican Public Health Association-American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Caucus
3. ARAAlaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) Regional Association
4. ATNIAffiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians
5. IACP-ICLES.....International Association of Chiefs of Police-Indian Country Law Enforcement Section
6. IAEM-TACInternational Association of Emergency Managers-Tribal Affairs Caucus
7. ICIN.....Indian Country Intelligence Network
8. NCAI.....National Congress of American Indians
9. NNNavajo Nation
10. NNAFCANational Native American Fire Chiefs Association
11. NTEMCNational Tribal Emergency Management Council
12. NWTEMCNorthwest Tribal Emergency Management Council
13. PSAC EC.....Public Safety Advisory Committee Executive Committee
14. SCTCA.....Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association
15. TCCTanana Chiefs Conference
16. USETUnited South and Eastern Tribes